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THE WORLD'S BEST NEWS & FACTS FOR YOUNG PEOPLE

BIG NEWS
Election surprise
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a legend
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READING
Katherine
Applegate's
new book!
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June 21, 2024 • Vol. 5, Issue 218 • \$5.99

Making sense of the world



THE WEEK Junior

THE BEST
MAGAZINE FOR
CURIOUS
KIDS

WHEELS OF FUN

Discover the thrilling history of
an iconic amusement ride p12

DID YOU KNOW?

- George Ferris Jr. is credited with inventing the ride.
- The first one opened in Chicago in June 1893.
- It stood 264 feet high and was powered by steam.





This week's big news

DID YOU KNOW?

General Dwight D. Eisenhower commanded US troops on D-Day and served as US President from 1953–1961.



A US veteran (left) is greeted in Normandy by presidents Joe Biden and Emmanuel Macron.

Tribute in the US



Thousands of people marked the anniversary at the National D-Day Memorial in Bedford, Virginia. It is located there because 44 soldiers, sailors, and airmen from Bedford invaded Normandy on D-Day, and 20 died. Built in 2001, the memorial symbolizes the many towns like it that the American troops came from.

Ceremonies mark D-Day anniversary

On June 6, ceremonies marked the 80th anniversary of D-Day, the military invasion that led to the end of World War II (1939–1945). World leaders, military veterans, and hundreds of others gathered in Normandy, France, to remember the historic event and honor the soldiers who served and died.

What was World War II?

World War II was a battle between the Allied forces and the Axis powers. The Allies were led by the US, UK, and Soviet Union (group of 15 countries run by Russia from 1922 to 1991), and the Axis powers were led by Germany, Italy, and Japan. In an effort to expand their territory and power, Germany's Nazi party, led by Adolf Hitler, stormed across Europe and seized many countries. They also carried out the Holocaust, the mass killing of 6 million Jewish men, women, and children and millions of other people.

What was D-Day?

D-Day was a massive effort to weaken the Axis troops, which had taken over France and built a stronghold along the English Channel, a waterway between France and England. Operation Overlord, as it was called, became the largest invasion by

land, air, and sea in world history, involving more than 2.8 million troops, 5,000 ships, and 13,000 aircraft. Just after dawn on June 6, 1944, 160,000 Allied soldiers battled rough waters and high winds to cross the channel from England into France. They landed along a 50-mile stretch of beaches in Normandy and pushed past Axis defenses by nightfall. More than 9,000 Allied soldiers were killed or wounded in the battle, a turning point in the war. Germany surrendered on May 7, 1945.

How was the 80th anniversary marked?

About 200 World War II veterans from the US, the UK, and Canada joined 25 world leaders on Normandy's beaches to mark the anniversary. Leaders included US President Joe Biden, President Emmanuel Macron of France, and King Charles and Prince William of the UK. In one of the day's events, hundreds of UK soldiers parachuted into a historic area where troops landed on D-Day. A candlelight vigil was held at Bayeux War Cemetery, where 4,600 soldiers are buried. About 150 US veterans gathered at the Normandy American Cemetery, where more than 9,000 troops are buried. Macron honored 11 American veterans with France's greatest distinction, a Legion of Honor award.



Military aircraft during the ceremony

What did participants say?

In a speech, Biden addressed World War II veterans, saying it was "the highest honor to be able to salute you here in Normandy." Macron told them, "You left everything behind and risked everything for our independence, for our freedom. This is something we have not forgotten. Thank you." In the decades since the war ended, Germany has rebuilt its relationship with Allied nations. At a ceremony in Normandy, German Chancellor (similar to a president) Olaf Scholz said D-Day "offered us Germans the chance for a new beginning" and called for a commitment to democracy and freedom across Europe. "Seeing Normandy now reminds me that freedom isn't free," said Felix Maurizio, age 99, a sailor from Massachusetts who landed in Normandy on D-Day and returned for the anniversary.

How else was the day observed?

Many organizations held events for veterans who were unable to travel to France. Special ceremonies took place at the National D-Day Memorial in Virginia (see box above) and the World War II Museum in Louisiana. D-Day veterans were honored at a New York State Veterans Home, where they live. In the UK, the D-Day Story Museum launched an online exhibition featuring artifacts from the invasion.

This week's big news



New money is issued in the UK

The Bank of England released the first paper money featuring King Charles III on June 5. He is the second monarch to appear on the UK's banknotes. The first was his mother, Queen Elizabeth II, whose role passed to Charles after her death in September 2022. His portrait will replace hers on the £5, £10, £20, and £50 bills, while the rest of the design will remain the same. Unlike his mother, Charles is shown without a crown.

Banknotes with a portrait of Elizabeth, who served as monarch for 70 years, can still be used. As they wear out or the demand for paper money increases, new ones with Charles' likeness will be printed and put into circulation. This process follows guidelines set by the royal family in order to reduce waste, cost, and environmental impact.

In keeping with tradition, the king was presented with the first of the new banknotes at a ceremony. Meanwhile, some people are scrambling to obtain bills from the earliest batch, which will have the lowest serial numbers and be more valuable to collectors.



IT'S AN AMAZING WEEK FOR...

PLENTY OF PENGUINS

Chester Zoo in the UK welcomed 11 Humboldt penguin babies, the most to hatch there in one season in over 10 years. The endangered bird is native to Peru and Chile. It's been "a really good year for the penguins," a zookeeper said.



A STRONG START

Soccer player Lily Yohannes, age 16, scored a goal 10 minutes into her first match with the US Women's National Team (USWNT). Yohannes, who joined the squad this spring, is the third-youngest scorer in USWNT history. "It's a dream come true," she said.



FAST FACT

Prime ministers in India serve a five-year term, and there is no limit to the number of terms they can serve.

Surprise election results in India

After an unexpectedly close election, Narendra Modi was sworn in for a third term as India's prime minister (PM, similar to US President) on June 9. Modi and his political party, the Bharatiya Janata Party, were expected to win but by a much wider margin. The result left Modi with a weaker grip on a nation he's known for tightly controlling.

With a population of 1.4 billion people, India is the world's biggest democracy (government in which people choose their leaders). More than 640 million people voted over 44 days starting on April 19. Voters do not directly elect the PM. Instead, they elect 543 representatives in the Lok Sabha (half of parliament, similar to the US Congress). The leader of the political party that wins the most seats in the Lok Sabha becomes PM. A political party must win 272 seats to secure a majority.

Modi had predicted a landslide victory, but his party won 240 seats, falling short of the record 303 it won in the last election, in 2019. The surprising results meant that the Bharatiya Janata Party did not have a majority and Modi did not automatically become PM. Instead, he had to seek the backing of other parties in a coalition (group of political parties that agree to work together) called the National Democratic Alliance (NDA) in order to return to office.

The NDA won a reported 294 seats in total. Coalition members who supported Modi did so in exchange for having a voice in his government.

Experts said Modi's performance was likely due to a struggling economy and accusations that his government favors Hindus and discriminates against other religious groups.

HELPING FAMILIES

People facing food insecurity in San Francisco, California, can now shop at a free grocery store. It's set up like a traditional market and serves people who live in parts of the city where there is little access to healthy food. "Now our families have choice while they shop with dignity," said one city official.





WOW!
More than 10,000 Boeing commercial airplanes are in service, which is nearly half of the world's jetliners in use today.



A view of Boeing's Starliner in space

1,000 days in space



On June 4, Russian cosmonaut Oleg Kononenko (shown above) became the first person to spend 1,000 days in space. Kononenko, age 59, reached the milestone during his fifth stay at the ISS. If his current excursion, which began in 2023, ends as scheduled on September 23, he will have spent 1,110 days in orbit.

Boeing sends astronauts to ISS

The US aerospace company Boeing launched a spacecraft, called Starliner, into space with two astronauts from NASA (the US space agency) on board. Although Boeing experienced delays while developing Starliner, its success provides NASA with more options for sending people into space.

What happened?

Starliner, which launched from Cape Canaveral Space Force Station in Florida on June 5, was propelled by an Atlas-Centaur rocket. It delivered NASA crew members Sunita Williams and Barry Wilmore to the International Space Station (ISS, a laboratory that orbits 254 miles above the Earth's surface). They will spend at least a week there before returning to Earth aboard the Starliner.

During the journey, Starliner experienced leaks of helium gas and other technical problems that the astronauts were able to safely address.

How did people react?

NASA officials said they were pleased that Boeing had successfully launched Starliner. In 2014, NASA hired Boeing and SpaceX, another private company, to build spacecraft to replace its retired space shuttles. While SpaceX began flying astronauts to the ISS in its vehicles in 2020, Boeing experienced development problems that kept it from launching a spacecraft until now. The US will now have two transportation systems for going to the ISS, "and no other country in the world has that," said Jim Free, a NASA administrator.

What else happened?

On June 6, SpaceX's Starship rocket completed its first successful crewless test flight. Starship was launched from SpaceX's facility in Texas, and a few minutes later, the rocket's booster splashed down in the Gulf of Mexico. This was the first time in four tries that SpaceX was able to bring the booster back to Earth intact, which is necessary for launching people into space.

What will happen next?

Boeing will work to fix Starliner's technical problems. It aims to send NASA crew members to the ISS for six-month missions. SpaceX said it plans to fly hundreds of Starship missions before launching the rocket with a crew on board.

WORD OF THE WEEK

D-DAY

Today, we use "D-Day" for the important events that took place on June 6, 1944, when Allied forces landed on the coast of France, which was under Nazi rule. At the time it was an established military code for the day when an operation was set to begin. The "D" stands for "Day" and was designed to keep an exact date secret.



THE WEEK IN HISTORY

June 16, 1911

IBM is founded

On June 16, 1911, IBM, then called the Computing-Tabulating-Recording Company, was founded in New York. It made punch-card machines for businesses and had about 1,300 employees. In 1924, the technology company was renamed Information Business Machines, or IBM. In 1969, it helped NASA land astronauts on the Moon. Today, IBM has about 300,000 employees.



National news



Patti LaBelle

Juneteenth concert in capital

The White House hosted its second annual Juneteenth concert on June 10 on the South Lawn. Juneteenth is a holiday on June 19 to commemorate the day in 1865 when the last enslaved people in Texas received word that they were free. Performers at the concert included singers Gladys Knight, Patti LaBelle, and Charlie Wilson and actor and comedian Roy Wood Jr. It was an evening of "community, culture, and music," the White House said.



Participants on a float in a Pride parade in Washington, DC, on June 8

DID YOU KNOW?
Today there are at least 17 rainbow flags with different combinations of colors for supporting diverse communities.



Most popular YouTuber named

MrBeast has surpassed the Indian music label T-Series to become the most subscribed YouTube channel, with about 278 million subscribers. It is the main channel run by MrBeast, otherwise known as Jimmy Donaldson, age 26. His videos often dare people to complete extreme challenges to win large amounts of money that come from his estimated worth of more than \$500 million.



The bird

Flamingo seen in Massachusetts

A rare sighting of a flamingo occurred along the shore of Cape Cod, Massachusetts, on June 2. The tropical bird is usually found living in the wild in warm, coastal locations, such as Florida and the Caribbean. Wildlife experts aren't sure how the bird ended up in Massachusetts, but they suspect that a hurricane last year could have blown flocks of flamingos from the Gulf of Mexico to the north.

Pride Month celebrated across US

The US and more than 100 countries around the world kicked off Pride Month on June 1. The month celebrates and advocates for fair treatment of people in the LGBTQ+ community. LGBTQ+ stands for lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, queer, and other identities related to a person's gender or the genders of those they love.

Millions of people take part in the month's parades and festivals. Rainbow flags, a symbol of the movement, are displayed in businesses, parks, and government buildings.

The first Pride March took place in June 1970. It was held to mark the one-year anniversary of the Stonewall Uprising, a major event in New York City that caused people to advocate for the civil rights of LGBTQ+ people. In June 1978, the rainbow Pride flag with eight colors was created for the Gay Freedom Day Parade in San Francisco, California. Former President Bill Clinton was the first US President to recognize Pride Month in 1999.



Rainbow flags symbolize support.

This year, the city of Cary, North Carolina, has lit up its public buildings with rainbow lights to celebrate the month. The Gerber/Hart Library in Chicago, Illinois, has created an exhibition called "Do Say Gay," which displays LGBTQ+ reading materials that have been banned by some communities. Harvard University's Pilgrim Health Care Institute in Boston, Massachusetts, has launched the LGBTQ Health Center of Excellence to focus on health issues that especially affect members of the community.

In soccer, the players of the US Women's National Team are wearing jerseys with their numbers displayed in Pride flag patterns.

One of the world's largest Pride parades takes place in New York City on the last Sunday in June. This year's theme is "Reflect.

Empower. Unite." The city of San Antonio, Texas, is holding a "Pride Bigger Than Texas Festival" on June 29, and San Francisco will host its Pride Parade and Party at City Hall on June 30.

THE WEEK'S SILLIEST HEADLINE

"Bear steals package of Oreos from California home" *UPI*





Around the world



Reactions in Israel



Israel

Military rescues four hostages

On June 8, the Israeli military rescued four hostages being held in the Nuseirat refugee camp in Gaza. The hostages had been among about 250 people kidnapped by Hamas, a terrorist group based in Gaza, during an attack at a music festival in Israel on October 7. They were returned to Israel and reunited with their families. Gazan officials said at least 274 Palestinians were killed in the raid.



The cow



Brazil

The world's most expensive cow

A Nelore cow from a farm in Uberaba, a city in the state of Minas Gerais, is the most expensive cow in the world, according to Guinness World Records. The cow, known as Viatina-19 FIV Mara Movéis, was sold at auction for more than \$4 million. Weighing over 2,400 pounds, Viatina-19 is twice as heavy as an average adult of her breed. She is the product of years of work in Brazil to make larger cows.



European parliament headquarters



European Union

Countries vote in elections

The European Union (EU, a group of 27 countries that work and trade together) held elections June 6–9 to choose 720 representatives in the European parliament, a group that votes on laws and decides on the EU budget. The election is held every five years. As *The Week Junior* went to press, the European People's Party was leading.

Italy

Politics is popular activity

More than half of the residents of Ingria, one of Italy's smallest villages, are running for office. The village has 46 inhabitants, and 30 of them are competing in local elections. The current mayor, Igor De Santis, faces opposition from his mother, who has joined a rival camp. She said they both want what's best for Ingria.



Ingria's town hall



Nigeria

Strikes suspended

Nigeria's main labor unions suspended strikes (when employees stop working as a form of protest) across the country on June 4, after the government agreed to pay workers a higher wage. The strikes in Africa's most populous country had led to widespread power outages and closures of schools, airports, and hospitals. Nigeria is having its worst cost of living crisis in years.



Airports were closed.

GETTY IMAGES (3); REUTERS/ALAMY/AP/REUTERS; SHUTTERSTOCK/CERAGOUT/LICENSIFY

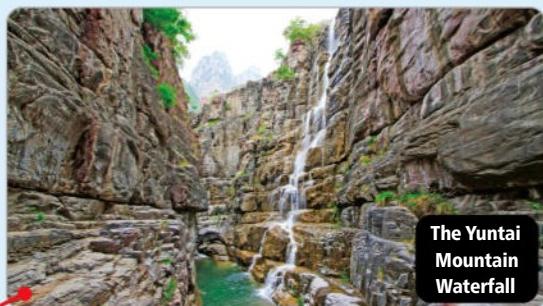
Around the world



The new ladder

Loen, Norway “Floating” ladder opens

A ladder that appears to be floating has opened in Loen. It has 120 steps and was installed 2,591 feet above a fjord (narrow body of water). Called the “Stigull,” the ladder is part of a hiking route up Mount Hoven. The ladder’s creator, Helge Bø, told CNN Travel, “It might make most people’s legs tremble a bit.”



The Yuntai Mountain Waterfall

Henan Province, China Famous waterfall fed by pipe

A hiker shared a video online showing that China’s tallest uninterrupted natural waterfall, the Yuntai Mountain Waterfall, was being fed water through a pipe at the top. Officials explained that they had taken the controversial step to increase the flow of water during the dry season so visitors wouldn’t be disappointed. Millions of people travel to the waterfall every year.



A shaman's shrine

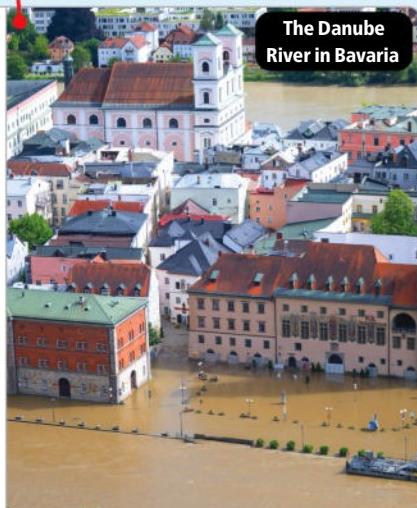
South Korea Ancient tradition finds new following

Shamanism, an ancient spiritual practice, has a new following among young people, Reuters news agency reported. Practitioners, called shamans, who post videos on YouTube are attracting hundreds of thousands of views. Shamans typically charge about \$73 for a consultation, which involves rituals such as ringing bells or throwing rice to make predictions about the future.



Germany River floods

Heavy rain has led the Danube River to burst its banks and cause serious flooding in Bavaria and Baden-Württemberg. At least six people have died, and thousands more have had to leave their homes. About 20 schools have closed. The rain also affected other countries, including Hungary and Austria, where the Danube flooded parts of the city of Linz.



The Danube River in Bavaria



Members of the ADF

Australia Armed forces to allow foreign recruits

The Australian Defense Force (ADF) is changing its rules to allow people from other countries, including the US, the UK, Canada, and New Zealand, to join. Under the new rules, someone would need to live in Australia for one year before being able to join. ADF officials hope the change will boost its numbers and improve Australia’s security.



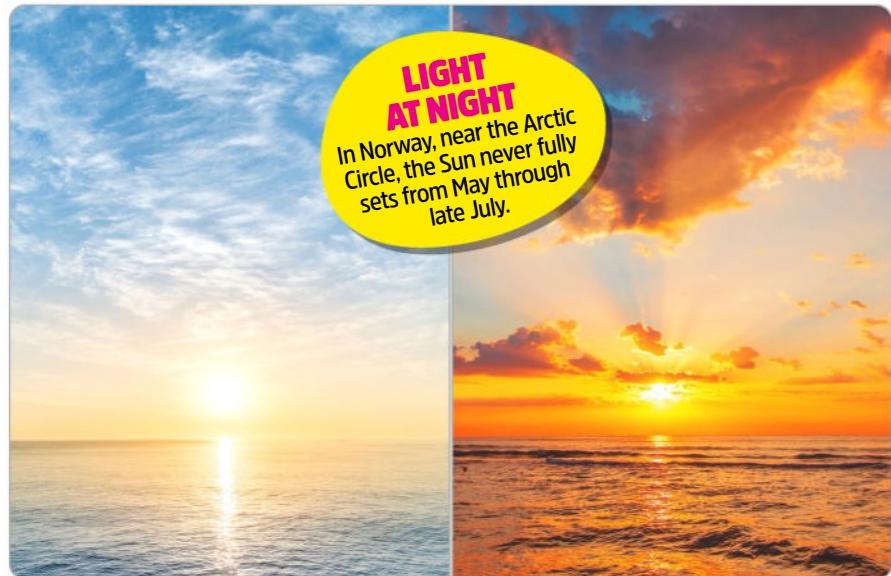
The big debate

Is sunrise better than sunset?

While some people love to wake up with the Sun, others prefer to watch it set.

What you need to know

- The timing of the sunrise and sunset changes throughout the year as Earth rotates on its axis.
- In the US, from October to March, the first sunrise each day is in the Cadillac Mountains in Maine, while the latest sunset in the continental US takes place near Cape Alava, Washington.
- The summer solstice, on June 20 or 21, is the longest day of the year and has the most hours of daylight. The winter solstice, on December 21 or 22, has the least daylight.



Sunrises and sunsets are a perfect way to bookend your day. Toward the end of June, most of the US enjoys the earliest sunrises and latest sunsets of the year. This means waking up early to see the Sun come up and heading to bed late if you want to watch it slowly sink below the horizon. Many people see the sunrise as a fresh start to the day after a good night's sleep, and they look forward to experiencing those first rays of light. But it also means getting up really early, which makes others say that sunset is the preferred part of the day. What do you think? Is sunrise better than sunset?

YES Three reasons why sunrise is better than sunset

- 1 Sunrise offers quiet time to yourself, when you can enjoy the peacefulness before you start your busy day.
- 2 It's fun to wake up first and watch the world come to life around you.
- 3 Seeing the Sun come up puts you in a good mood, and you still have a whole day to look forward to.

NO Three reasons why sunrise is not better than sunset

- 1 Those last moments of sleep are so precious, and every bit of rest gives you more energy for the day.
- 2 Sunrise is subtle, but sunsets are a dramatic burst of vibrant pinks, oranges, and reds.
- 3 Sunset allows you to catch your breath after a busy day, take a moment for yourself, and transition to nighttime.



What do you think?

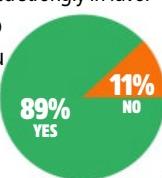
Now that you've read a bit more about this issue, visit kids.theweekjunior.com/polls so you can vote in our debate. Vote YES if you think sunrise is better than sunset or NO if you don't. We'll publish the results next week.

No—end the day with calming color

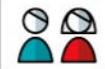
Who wants to wake up early to watch the sunrise when you can stay snuggled up in your cozy bed? Those extra minutes and hours of sleep are valuable and give you more energy throughout the day. Sure, the sunrise is pretty, but nothing beats the breathtaking red, orange, and pink colors that light up the sky at sunset. It's like a painting that's come to life, and you get to be right in the middle of it. A sunset is also a great way to finish your day. You can let out a deep breath and relax or take a moment to reflect on everything that happened during the day. It's a moment of calm before settling in for the night.

LAST WEEK'S POLL

Last week, we asked if you should read a book more than once. You voted strongly in favor of returning to the stories you love: 89% said yes, and 11% said no.



The goal of the big debate is to present two sides of an issue fairly in order to stimulate discussion and allow our readers to make up their minds. The views on this page do not reflect those of *The Week Junior*, and the page is not funded by third parties.



Raising her voice

Katherine Goforth is breaking barriers with her passion for music.

Singer Katherine Goforth is using her voice to deliver joy and shine a light on the talents of people like herself who are transgender (when someone's gender is different from their sex assigned at birth). Her music and advocacy have earned the 33-year-old the inaugural True Voice Award by the Washington National Opera (WNO). It was created to support and uplift opera singers who are transgender and nonbinary (meaning they identify as neither male nor female, or sometimes both).

Goforth's father is a musician and a former high school band teacher, so she grew up surrounded by music. "Music became a tool for me to fit in, to get to know people," she told Boston Public Radio. A graduate of the prestigious Juilliard School in New York, Goforth has also attended



Goforth during a performance

many other top performing arts programs, including the Franz Schubert Institut in Austria, and performed all over the world.

The WNO launched the True Voice Award to promote inclusiveness in opera, which traditionally defines a singer's gender by the sound of their voice rather than their identity.

Goforth is a tenor, which is typically a male vocal category, but she performs female roles in operas. She is currently based in Portland, Oregon, and performs as a soloist in the Pacific Northwest region.

Goforth recently performed at a recital held in her honor at the Kennedy Center in Washington, DC, home to the WNO. In an interview with the site Broadway World, she said of the award, "We have to imagine the futures we want to live in, and the art we make can be one way of doing that."



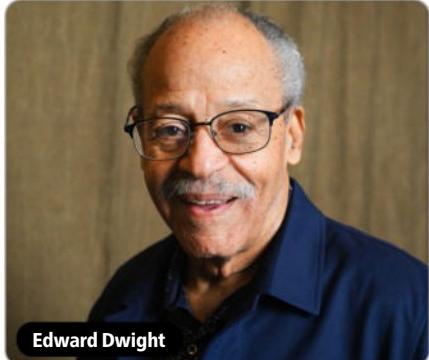
Katherine Goforth

MUSIC HISTORY

Opera originated in Florence, Italy, in the late 1500s, during the Renaissance.

An astronaut's flight

At age 90, former astronaut Edward Dwight achieved a lifelong dream of traveling into space. On May 19, he flew on a Blue Origin rocket that spent about 10 minutes in the sky. In 1961, Dwight, then an Air Force pilot, was the first Black person selected by NASA to train for space flight. He wasn't chosen to go to space, but his legacy paved the way for greater diversity among astronauts. Now he is the oldest person who has ventured into space. After arriving back on Earth, he said, "It was a life-changing experience."



Edward Dwight



Arturo Rivera Martínez

High honor for chef

Taquería El Califa de León, located in Mexico City, has become the first Mexican taco stand to earn a Michelin star, one of the restaurant world's highest honors. Its chef, Arturo Rivera Martínez, age 66, was born and raised in Mexico City. He has been working at the stand for nearly 20 years and cooks thousands of tacos a day. The Michelin judges praised his corn tortillas and flavorful meat. Martínez learned to cook steak from his father, who was a butcher. Martínez called the honor "fantastic" and said, "The secret is the simplicity of our taco."

OVERHEARD



"It always feels good to get that first one done, and then you can build out from there."

India Bradley, age 25, principal dancer with the New York City Ballet, on overcoming her nerves onstage



Animals and the environment



Baby bison born in US

Five American bison were recently born at the Oakland Zoo in California. The calves, which can already walk, will eventually be sent to Montana as part of a project to restore the state's bison population. There, they will roam freely under the care of the Blackfeet Nation.



Bison help reduce climate change

Scientists are always on the lookout for ways to reduce climate change and stop the loss of biodiversity (variety of living things in an area), and a recent study has revealed a way to do both at the same time. A project that reintroduced bison to Romania is having a positive effect on the environment.

Bison are large mammals that are in the same family of animals as cows. European bison (one of two existing species, along with American bison) disappeared from Romania more than 200 years ago, mainly due to hunting and habitat loss. They were reintroduced to the wild in Romania in 2014. Since then, more

bison have been added to the herd, which lives in the Tarcu Mountains, and its population now numbers about 170 individuals.

Experts say a big cause of climate change is carbon dioxide, a gas that traps the Sun's heat in the Earth's atmosphere. Carbon dioxide is mostly produced by human activities, such as burning fossil fuels like oil, coal, and gas—including using cars and planes.

Bison help with carbon absorption because of the influence they have on their environment. Their poop fertilizes soil, helping plants grow, and seeds get caught in their fur, which helps plants reproduce

and spread to other areas. The heavy creatures also press down the soil underneath them, which can stop carbon dioxide from being released from the ground into the air.

The bison study estimates that, because of the animals, 20 square miles of Romanian grassland are absorbing an extra 54,000 tons of carbon each year. This is equivalent to emissions from 43,000 gas-powered cars in the US or 123,000 in Europe, where cars generally release less carbon dioxide.

Oswald Schmitz, the lead author of the study, told *The Guardian* newspaper that bison are "climate heroes." He said the research team had also looked at eight other animal species, including musk oxen, tropical forest elephants, and sea otters. "Many of them show similar promise to these bison," he said.



PLACE OF THE WEEK

Cape Cod National Seashore, Massachusetts

Cape Cod National Seashore is a 40-mile stretch of land so beautiful it inspired author Henry David Thoreau to write essays about it. Maintained by the National Park Service, it runs along the eastern coast of Cape Cod, on the Atlantic Ocean. The seashore features beaches, marshes, ponds, cranberry bogs, walking and biking trails, and historic lighthouses. More than 450 species live in the area, including great white sharks, seals, spadefoot toads, and birds like the piping plover and the northern harrier hawk. Find out more at nps.gov/caco.





DID YOU KNOW?

Stink bugs got their name because they release a smelly liquid to ward off predators.



A Megymenum stink bug on a plant

A layer of fungi protection

Researchers have discovered that female stink bugs protect their eggs from wasp attacks with the help of a special organ. They use the organ to grow fungi (a group of plant-like living things that includes mold, mildew, and mushrooms).

Scientists in Japan were studying the tympanal organ (a kind of eardrum that picks up sounds) on the back legs of the female Megymenum stink bug. They noticed that the insects seemed to be growing several fungal species in the organ, like a tiny garden on their legs.

When the bugs laid their eggs, they used another leg to scratch off some fungi and deposit it over the eggs. After a few days, the eggs were completely covered in strands of fungus.

Studies in the wild found that the fungus defends against a species of parasitic wasp, which lays its own eggs inside the eggs of other insects. If the layer of fungus is thick enough, it prevents the wasp from piercing the stink bug's eggs. Once they hatch, the young nymphs keep the fungal coating until they shed their skin.

Animal of the Week

Greater glider



Scientists spotted a greater glider in Australia's Deongwar State Forest for the first time since the 1990s. The gliders' legs and body are connected by a furry membrane called a patagium, which acts like wings when they leap from the treetops.

- **LIFE SPAN:** Up to 15 years
- **HABITAT:** Tree hollows in eucalyptus forests
- **SIZE:** 12 to 18 inches long, with an 18- to 24-inch tail
- **DIET:** Eucalyptus leaves
- **FUN FACT:** They can glide up to 328 feet and change direction with the help of their tails.



Good week / Bad week



Sei whales

Sei whales, one of the largest whale species, have returned to Argentina's coast for the first time in more than 100 years. Although the whales were once nearly extinct, global bans on whaling have helped the species return.



Pelicans

Rescuers in California are treating hundreds of starving pelicans that were found stranded on beaches across the state. Experts say a severe storm in late spring made it difficult for the birds to hunt and find food.



Katy Roscoe

Aquarist II,
New England Aquarium

Catfish will eat pretty much anything! They like crustaceans such as crayfish and shrimp, other fish, fish eggs, insects, plants, algae, and mollusks like clams, mussels, and snails. Catfish have even been known to eat mice and other small mammals! They use their whisker-like barbels to detect when food is near.



"What does a catfish eat?"

Brady, 8, Massachusetts

Do you have a question for an animal expert? Send it to hello@theweekjunior.com. Find out more about the New England Aquarium at neaq.org.



All about the Ferris wheel

A classic ride with

One man's creative vision led to a popular amusement attraction.

The Ferris wheel is an iconic ride that has enthralled people of all ages for more than 130 years. Find out about its history.



George Washington Gale Ferris Jr.

In 1889, the Eiffel Tower was unveiled at the World's Fair in Paris, France. Four years later, the city of Chicago, Illinois, was preparing to host the next World's Fair. Planners of that event wanted to build a main attraction that would rival the Eiffel Tower. George Washington Gale Ferris Jr., a 33-year-old engineer, sketched an idea for a tall observation wheel. Small wooden wheels had existed before that, but Ferris' ambitious new steel structure would take riders to new heights. His idea was rejected due to safety concerns, but Ferris persisted and his proposal was accepted in December 1892.



An illustration of Ferris' wheel

A grand spectacle

It took hundreds of people and more than 100,000 parts to build the wheel. When it was complete, it stood 264 feet high—almost as tall as the Statue of Liberty—and contained 36 cars that could each fit 60 passengers. Powered by a steam engine, the wheel opened at the World's Fair on June 21, 1893. Called "the Chicago Wheel," it was later renamed after its creator. Ferris faced lawsuits disputing the originality of his idea and died three years after his creation debuted. His wheel made one final appearance at the 1904 St. Louis World's Fair.



WOODEN WONDER
In 1892, William Somers created a wooden ride called Roundabout that was installed in New York and New Jersey.

Wheels with a different spin

Pacific Wheel

Rising 130 feet above the Santa Monica Pier in California, the Pacific Wheel is reportedly the world's only solar-powered Ferris wheel.



Alem

The world's largest indoor Ferris wheel, located in Ashgabat, Turkmenistan, is about 156 feet high. Called Alem (meaning "the universe"), it is enclosed in a structure made of glass and steel.





a spectacular view



DID YOU KNOW?
More than 1.4 million people rode the original Ferris wheel, at a cost of 50 cents per ride.



Turning toward the future

Ferris' wheel inspired copies around the globe. The Vienna Giant Ferris Wheel in Austria was built in 1897. Rebuilt in 1945, it is one of the oldest operating Ferris wheels in the world today. In the US, many companies tried to cash in on the ride's early popularity by making smaller models that could easily be transported from one carnival or fair to another. One such enterprise, the Eli Bridge Company, designed a portable Ferris wheel in 1906 and shipped more than 1,000 wheels globally. In 1920, the Wonder Wheel, powered by electricity, came to Coney Island in New York City. Still in use today, it is as tall as a 15-story building and has cars that swing back and forth as the wheel rotates.



A cherry blossom-themed car in Japan

The modern Ferris wheel

As new thrill rides came along in the 1970s and 1980s, the popularity of the traditional Ferris wheel declined. The opening of the 443-foot-high London Eye in 2000 changed that. The world's tallest observation wheel at the time, it appeared in movies and sparked a global trend. The Osaka Wheel, built in 1997 and the tallest wheel in Japan at 404 feet, has cars with themes like spring flowers. Some modern Ferris wheels also feature climate-controlled cars and fine dining. Plans are underway for the Seoul Twin Eye, the world's tallest spokeless observation wheel, in South Korea.

Big O

Named after the letter it resembles, this 197-foot-high wheel in Tokyo, Japan, lacks spokes in its middle. Riders can sing in a karaoke car or see a roller coaster whiz by on a track through the wheel's open center.



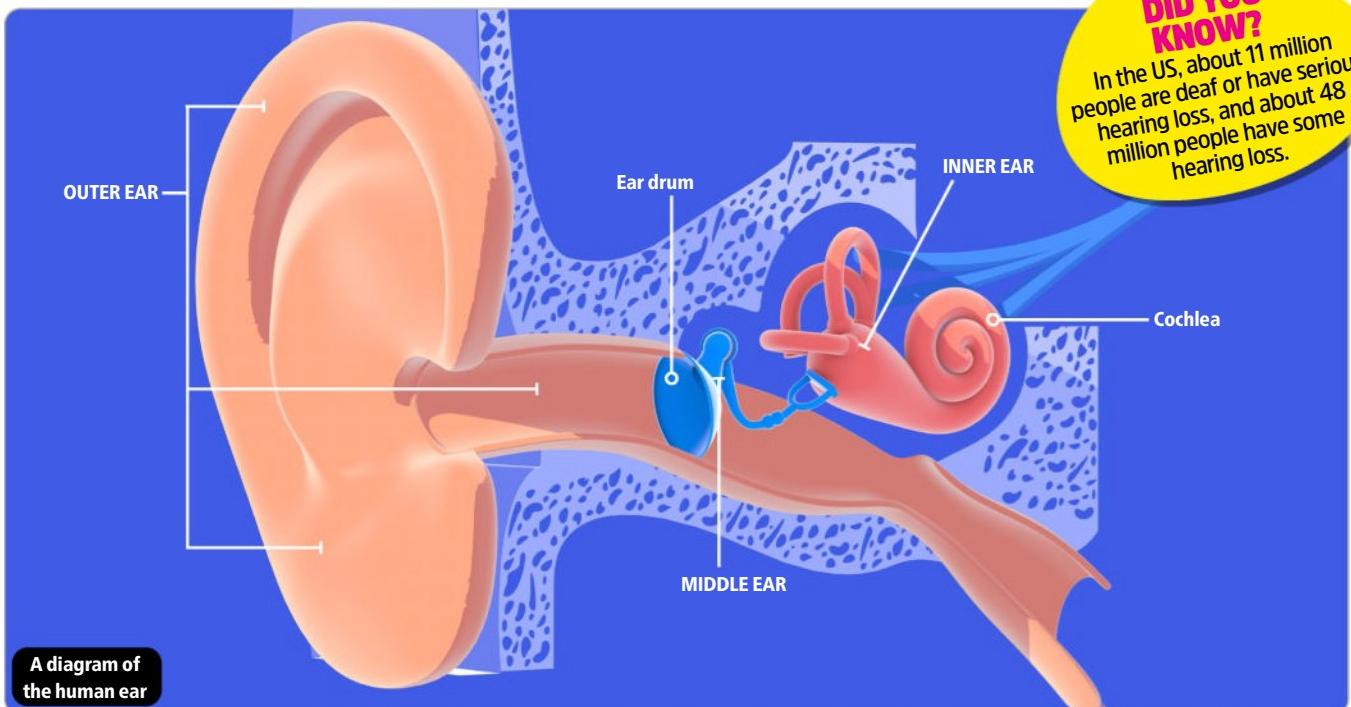
Tianjin Eye

Built above the Yongle bridge in Tianjin, China, the Tianjin Eye stands 394 feet high. One rotation of the wheel takes about 30 minutes and offers riders sweeping views of the Hai River.





Science and technology



A diagram of the human ear

Girl hears for first time after treatment

A new type of medical treatment has allowed a toddler who was born deaf to hear without a hearing aid.

Opal Sandy, who is 18 months old, was born with a condition called auditory neuropathy, which disrupts communication between her ears and her brain. The condition is genetic, which means it was carried in her DNA (chemical that carries all the instructions for how a living thing should grow and develop).

Sound waves usually move from a person's outer ear—the part we can see—into the ear canal. They cause vibrations that travel through the ear canal to the middle and inner ear. Part of the inner ear, the cochlea, looks like a snail's shell. It is filled with many tiny hair cells that create a small electrical signal when they vibrate. This signal is sent to the brain, which understands it as sound.

In Opal's ears, that signal didn't get properly sent to her brain because the hair cells inside her cochlea were damaged. This damage was due to a faulty gene (short section of DNA). New treatments, called gene therapy, are being tested to address conditions like this.



Opal Sandy and her mother

Opal was chosen to take part in a medical trial called CHORD, which is testing gene therapy for children who have faulty genes that affect their hearing. The therapy worked by putting a harmless virus into her inner ear. The virus functioned as a delivery method. It carried a working version of the faulty gene, which then helped the damaged hair cells in the cochlea to repair themselves.

After a few weeks, Opal could hear loud sounds, such as clapping. Six months later, she had almost normal levels of hearing in the treated ear. She could even hear soft sounds, including whispers. Opal can now respond when her parents speak to her, saying words like "Dada" and "bye-bye."

More children who are deaf from the UK, the US, and Spain will be included in the trial, and their progress will be followed for five years. "When Opal could first hear us clapping unaided, it was mind-blowing," said her mother. Opal's father said the family was proud to have contributed to the research, "which will hopefully help other children like Opal and their families in the future."

Cochlear implants



The external part of the device

A cochlear implant is an electronic device that can help people with damage to the inner ear. Unlike a hearing aid, which amplifies sound, the implant gives the wearer the sensation of hearing. It has an external part that rests behind the outer ear and an inner section that is surgically implanted under the skin.

On the external part, a small microphone picks up sound and a computer chip converts it into digital code. The code is sent to a receiver on the section implanted under the skin, which then stimulates the cochlear nerve (part of the ear that sends signals to the brain). When the brain receives the signal, it interprets it as a sound. The implants can enable people to recognize and understand speech and other sounds in their environment.



NASA prepares for moonwalks here on Earth

To prepare for its Artemis 3 Moon mission, NASA (the US space agency) conducted tests in the desert near Flagstaff, Arizona. A team of astronauts, engineers, and other experts spent a week trying out "moonwalking operations" and new technology for use on the lunar surface.

Artemis 3, which is expected to launch in September 2026, will be the first mission to put humans on the Moon since 1972. The crew will include the first woman and first person of color to walk on the Moon. They will spend a week performing scientific studies before returning to Earth.

The test site's location is similar to the lunar surface, which includes craters and other features formed by volcanoes.

WOW!
The US sent 12 astronauts to the Moon between 1969 and 1972 and is the only nation that has put people on the lunar surface.

The desert team was supported by scientists at the Johnson Space Center in Houston, Texas, who will monitor and guide the Artemis 3 mission from Earth.

NASA astronauts Kate Rubins and Andre Douglas wore mock spacesuits and performed four simulated moonwalks. They also tested equipment such as navigation screens and lighting beacons that can be used to guide astronauts back to their spaceship after moonwalks.

The team will apply what they learned to future experiments and missions. "Field tests play a critical role in helping us test all of the systems, hardware, and technology we'll need to conduct successful lunar operations," said Barbara Janoiko, who ran the test program for NASA.



Soldiers test ancient armor

Scientists have solved the mystery of 3,500-year-old armor found in Greece in 1960. The armor was heavy and thick and had little damage. That made some experts think it was designed for ceremonial use rather than battle. A new study, however, proved that it was indeed made for fighting.

Known as the Dendra armor, the set weighs about 60 pounds and is made of bronze plates and a helmet with inlaid boar's tusk. It is from the Mycenaean civilization (1600–1100 BCE) and covered its wearer from the head to the knee.

Experts from the University of Thessaly, in Greece, had 13 current members of the Greek military wear detailed replicas of the armor. For 11 hours, the modern soldiers



A modern soldier in the armor

engaged in a simulated battle using swords and spears that ancient soldiers would have used.

The study found that not only did the armor work well in battle, but it was advanced for its time. It would have given Mycenaean soldiers an advantage over rival armies.

NASA/JOSH VALCARCEL; FLORIS ET AL., 2024, PLOS ONE, CC-BY 4.0 DESK NEST: ON LEFT PAGE: GETTY IMAGES/2/2/AP



A bed that keeps cats off the desk



The Desk Nest Cat Bed

Cat owners working from home often face a furry distraction: cats walking or sleeping on their keyboard, looking for attention. The new Desk Nest Cat Bed limits interruptions by giving felines a place to rest that's nearby but elevated and out of the way.

The sturdy bed quickly attaches to a desk and can be rotated, raised, and lowered for what its designers call the "purr-fect fit." It features a padded, washable bed to keep cats safe, cozy, and comfortable and can hold pets that weigh up to 25 pounds.

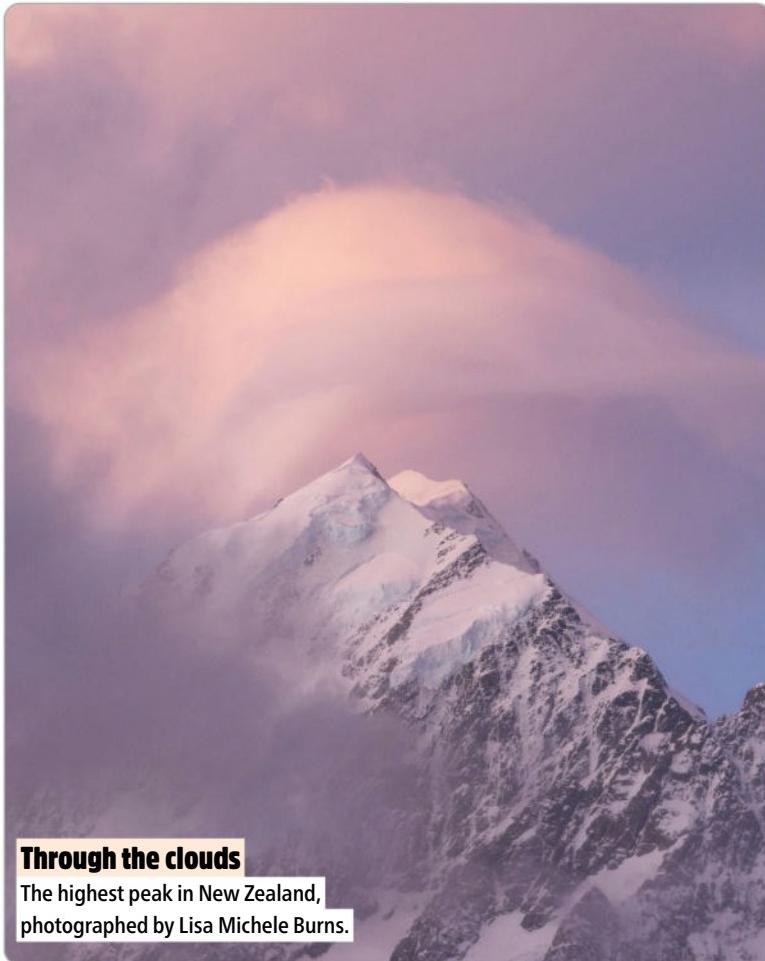


Photos of the week



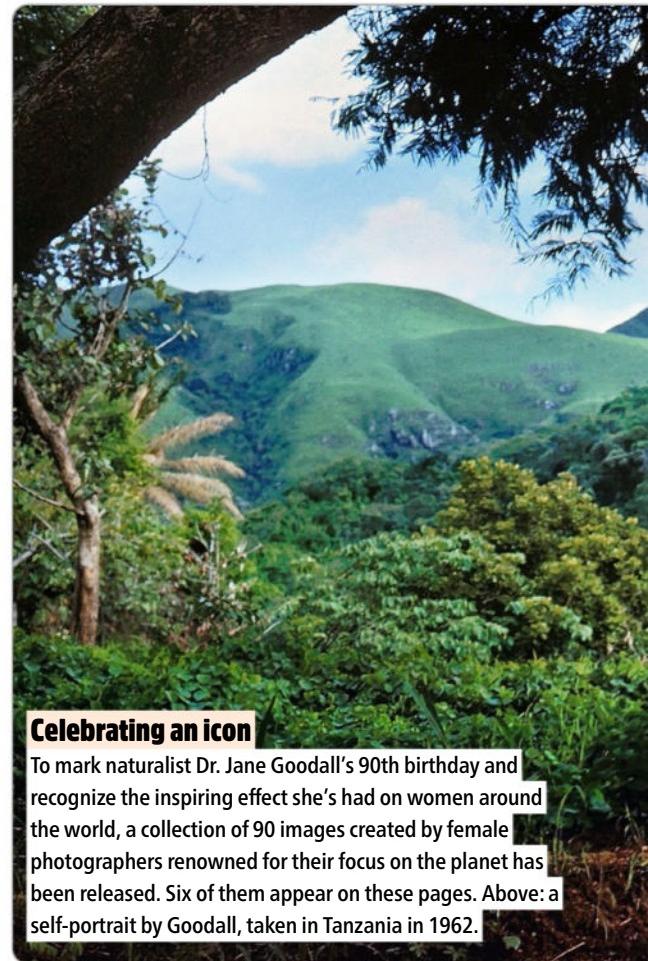
Fancy feet

Blue-footed boobies in Ecuador,
photographed by Tui De Roy.



Through the clouds

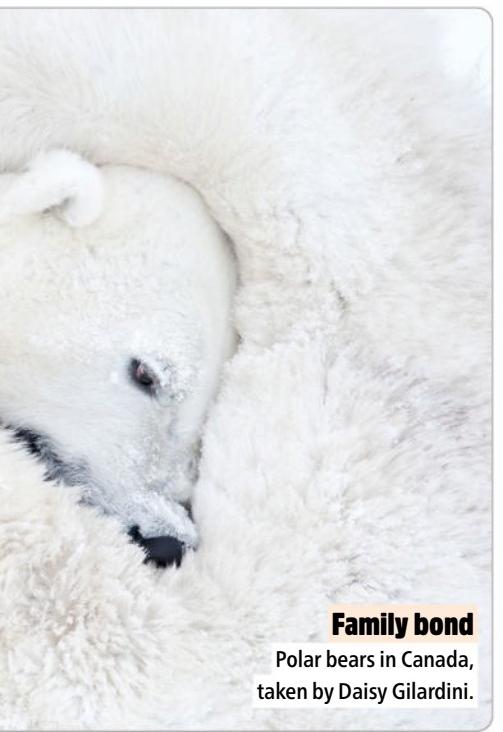
The highest peak in New Zealand,
photographed by Lisa Michele Burns.



Celebrating an icon

To mark naturalist Dr. Jane Goodall's 90th birthday and recognize the inspiring effect she's had on women around the world, a collection of 90 images created by female photographers renowned for their focus on the planet has been released. Six of them appear on these pages. Above: a self-portrait by Goodall, taken in Tanzania in 1962.

Photos of the week



Family bond

Polar bears in Canada,
taken by Daisy Gilardini.



Solitary stroll

An elephant in a forest in India,
photographed by Jody MacDonald.



Against a blue sky

A young rider on horseback in
Mongolia, taken by Chiara Goia.





Sports



DID YOU
KNOW?
In Chicago, Illinois, many people play recreational softball with a 16-inch ball instead of a typical 12-inch one.

The University of Oklahoma team

History of softball

Softball was invented in 1887, after a group of friends in Chicago started hitting a boxing glove with a stick. It was first developed as an indoor version of baseball but eventually moved outside. It was known by



Oklahoma wins college softball title

For a history-making fourth consecutive season, the University of Oklahoma softball team won the Women's College World Series (WCWS). On June 6, they beat the University of Texas, 8–4, to complete a two-game sweep in the best-of-three championship series at Devon Park in Oklahoma City. It is the university's eighth college softball title.

The softball championship tournament began in May with 64 teams. Texas, which was vying for its first-ever WCWS title, was seeded (ranked) number one in the tournament, and Oklahoma was number two. Eight teams made it to the WCWS before it came down to the final two.



Kelly Maxwell

Oklahoma almost didn't make the final. In a semifinal game on June 3, they lost to the University of Florida, 9–3. Until then, Oklahoma had been on a 20-game winning streak in the WCWS. The next night, the teams played again to decide who would advance to the championship series. Oklahoma won in extra innings with a walkoff home run by star outfielder Jayda Coleman.

Texas, meanwhile, won three consecutive games in the WCWS to qualify for the championship. They had excellent pitchers who held their opponents scoreless in each of those games.

Texas and Oklahoma had faced off four times this season, and each won two games. Their last

meeting before the tournament was in the Big 12 Championship, which Oklahoma won, 5–1.

In Game 1 of the title series on June 5, Oklahoma had three homers in an 8–3 win. Their pitcher Kelly Maxwell threw for all seven innings. Game 2 was a back-and-forth contest that had the biggest moment in the fourth. In the top of the inning, Texas went up, 3–2, then in the bottom half, Oklahoma's Cydney Sanders hit a bases-loaded double that drove in all three runners and gave her team a 5–3 lead. Texas scored a run in the top of the sixth, but Oklahoma responded with three more to help lock up the victory.

Oklahoma used five pitchers in the win, a WCWS first. Maxwell, who delivered the last four outs, was named the Most Outstanding Player of the WCWS after the game.

THIS WEEK'S WINNERS...

TENNIS

Iga Swiatek, the world's top-ranked player, beat Jasmine Paolini in two sets on June 8 to win the French Open, one of the four Grand Slam tournaments in tennis. This is her fourth French Open title in five years. The next day, Spain's Carlos Alcaraz beat Alexander Zverev in five sets to win the men's tournament. Alcaraz, age 21, is the youngest tennis player to win a major title on clay, grass, and hard courts.



Iga Swiatek

Carlos Alcaraz

BASEBALL

On June 7, the Kansas City Royals beat the Seattle Mariners, 10–9, in a major comeback. The Royals had ended the first inning down 7–0, and the score was 8–0 midway through the fourth.

COLLEGE TRACK AND FIELD

The University of Florida's men's team won their third straight national outdoor title on June 7. The next day, the University of Arkansas won the women's title. They won the indoor track and field title earlier this year.

Sports



FUN FACT

Team USA cricket star Saurabh Netravalkar works full-time as an engineer at the software company Oracle.



Team USA's Jessy Singh on June 6

US shines at Cricket World Cup

The T20 Cricket World Cup, a major competition featuring top international cricket teams, is underway in the US and the West Indies. Because the US is one of the host countries, Team USA automatically earned one of the 20 spots in the tournament. Although cricket is not a mainstream sport in the US, the team is ranked 18th among T20 international teams. They got off to a great start and won their first two Group Stage matches, including a thrilling upset victory over sixth-ranked Pakistan in Dallas, Texas, on June 6.

Cricket is a bat and ball sport that was first played in England in at least 1611 and possibly centuries earlier. Today, it is very popular in former British colonies, including Pakistan, India, and Australia. In the game, two teams of 11 players compete on an oval field to score the most runs. As

with baseball, they take turns batting, with one team trying to score runs and the other trying to get the batters out. In the end, the team with the most runs wins. T20 has fewer innings than traditional cricket. The last T20 World Cup was in 2022, when England beat Pakistan in the final.

Team USA's win over Pakistan is the most significant victory in the team's history, and it came down to a tie-breaker called a super over (similar to a shootout in other sports). Captain Monank Patel, who was named Player of the Match, said the team had "an unbelievable performance" and called it "a big day for Team USA and the USA cricket community too."

When *The Week Junior* went to press, Team USA was set to play top-ranked India in their Group Stage match on June 12.



COACH OF THE WEEK

Coach's Name: Margaret Sweatman

Team: Oakcrest Middle School Basketball

"Coach Sweatman is the best thing that ever happened to our team. She is so encouraging and wants each of us to be the best player we can be. She makes us laugh at practice but also makes sure we work hard. Her drills help with our fundamentals, endurance, and most of all, team building. Her 'boxing out' drill was some of the best fun we had all season! She sees the potential in her players and uses it to build us into an unstoppable team." Lizzie, 14, Virginia



To nominate a Coach of the Week, send your coach's name, photo, sport, and team to hello@theweekjunior.com. Include your name, age, state, and a few reasons why your coach is great.

SPOTLIGHT ON...

These US athletes have qualified for or are hoping to qualify for this summer's Olympics or Paralympics in Paris. Here is some sports-related advice they shared with *The Week Junior*.

Noelle Malmakai AGE: 23

SPORT: PARA TRACK & FIELD (SHOTPUT)



"Try something new. And if you don't like it, you can go from there. But you never know what interest you might uncover by just trying a new event."

Ian Seidenfeld AGE: 22

SPORT: PARA TABLE TENNIS



"For kids trying out sports, do it all. Figure out what you want to do. Don't worry about doing it at a high level. Try to find what's fun for you, and pursue it to the extent that you can."

Fiona O'Keeffe AGE: 26

SPORT: TRACK & FIELD (MARATHON)



"Have fun with it. That's the way to make it sustainable and allow yourself to have a longer career. It's great to have goals and dreams down the road. But when you're in high school or middle school, just focus on enjoying it, spending time with your friends, and keeping it laid-back."

Nick Mayhugh AGE: 28

SPORT: PARA TRACK & FIELD



"A lot of people often get caught up in winning a medal or a trophy, or they want certain titles or to break a record. But those things don't define you. It's the journey that gets you there that really defines you as an athlete and as a person."

Hans Henken AGE: 32

SPORT: SAILING



"Continuing to have fun is what drives a lot of the results at the end of the day. Because if you're enjoying what you're doing, you're able to put more time, effort, and energy into it."



Arts and entertainment



Ultraman: Rising

DID YOU KNOW?

Baseball has been played in Japan for more than 150 years and is the country's most popular sport.

A new superhero film

The Netflix film *Ultraman: Rising* is a sci-fi action movie featuring a popular character from Japan.

A new animated film starring a popular Japanese superhero is now on Netflix. *Ultraman: Rising* follows Ken Sato, a baseball star who takes over his father's job as Ultraman, a giant hero who battles giant monsters (called *kaiju*) in Tokyo, Japan. Playing baseball and saving the city is hard, but things get even tougher for Ken after he ends up with a 35-foot-tall baby kaiju named Emi. The film combines sci-fi and thrilling action with a story about family.



Shannon Tindle

The Ultraman character has been around since the 1960s and has been reinvented many times. While there have always been *kaiju* in the series, the film's plot is entirely new. "There has never

been a baseball player," director and co-writer Shannon Tindle told *The Week Junior*. He grew up as a fan of Ultraman but said watching the film doesn't require any special knowledge.

Tindle said the inspiration for the animation style of *Ultraman: Rising* is manga (Japanese comic books and graphic novels), and the inspiration for

the story came from a 1970s film about a selfish father who has to bond with his son. Tindle also explained he created Emi, the baby *kaiju*, for his "8-year-old self." He called her a "dynamic character" who can communicate her needs even though she can't talk. "And she gets to participate in some pretty cool battles," he added. He said seeing her powers develop over time mirrors how human children learn and grow.

One of Tindle's goals with the film is to have audiences love Ultraman. He would also like them to connect to the story and take away this lesson: "Your parents are not perfect, but they're trying."

3 facts about Ultraman

Creator

Ultraman was created by Eiji Tsuburaya (right). He is known as the inventor of Japanese special effects, called *tokusatsu*, which use miniatures on a set so monsters look gigantic.



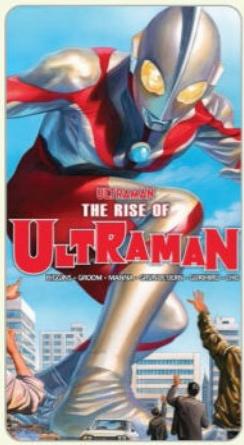
TV series

The first *Ultraman* TV series was a live-action show that was released in 1966. Over the years, the character and other Ultra heroes starred in more live-action series as well as films and animated shows. An anime *Ultraman* (right) arrived on Netflix in 2019.



Comic books

In 2020, Marvel published the first issue of *The Rise of Ultraman*, a comic book miniseries. Since then, there has been an Ultraman sequel and an Ultraseven spin-off. A crossover with the Avengers is coming in August.



Arts and entertainment



WOW!

In 2021, Banksy's Love Is in the Bin, a half-shredded painting, sold for \$25 million.



Season's Greetings (right) and more art at the Banksy Museum

Museum for a famous street artist

A museum celebrating the famous street artist known as Banksy is now open in New York City. Banksy, whose identity is unknown, paints graffiti murals that convey messages of social and political activism. The Banksy Museum has more than 160 re-creations of his work, all made by other anonymous street artists.

Banksy first gained recognition in the 1990s, when his art began appearing on walls and trains in Bristol, England, which is believed to be his hometown. His work appears unannounced, and it often gets lost or destroyed because it is on public property. However, images of many lost pieces exist in photos online.

Hazis Vardar, a private collector of original Banksy art, first opened a museum with Banksy replicas in Paris, France, in 2019. Since then, Vardar has launched four additional Banksy museums, including the one in New York City,

which is the first in the US. The artist is not involved in the museums.

Inside the New York City museum, where the interior was made to feel like the urban areas where Banksy makes his art, visitors can see re-creations of pieces at their original scale. It took about five months for 12 artists to create the replicas. One mural on display is a copy of *Season's Greetings*, which covers two sides of a corner wall. A child catches snowflakes in his mouth on one side, and the other side reveals that he is actually catching ashes from a burning dumpster.

William Meade, the museum's executive director, told *The Week Junior* he hopes visitors are inspired by the way Banksy tackles societal issues and how he has influenced other artists, including those who contributed to the museum. "It's art for you to think about and bring your own message to," he said.



Choose Your Weapon



READER RECOMMENDS

Dragons: Race to the Edge (Netflix)

"This TV series is part of the *How to Train Your Dragon* franchise. It follows a dragon-riding Viking boy named Hiccup and his friend Toothless, a rare Night Fury dragon. In the TV series, the pair find a mysterious artifact called the Dragon Eye, which sparks them to leave Berk, their home island, and move to a volcanic island called Dragon's Edge. There they meet new breeds of dragons and face new villains, as Hiccup, his human dragon rider friends, and Toothless work together to keep peace between the Vikings and dragons. Check it out!" Ander, 8, Massachusetts

Do you have a film or TV show to recommend to other kids? Send your review to hello@theweekjunior.com.

THIS WEEK'S WATCH LIST



Frog and Toad

(Apple TV+)

The adventures of best friends Frog and Toad resume in season two of this series, which is adapted from the award-winning children's books of the same name. In new episodes, daring Frog continues to get cautious Toad to try new things, such as sledding on big hills.



Star Wars: The Acolyte (Disney+)

This new live-action series is the latest addition to the *Star Wars* saga. It is set during the final days of the High Republic era and begins when a young warrior reunites with her Jedi Master to look into a series of crimes. As they investigate, they uncover dark mysteries. It is rated TV-14.

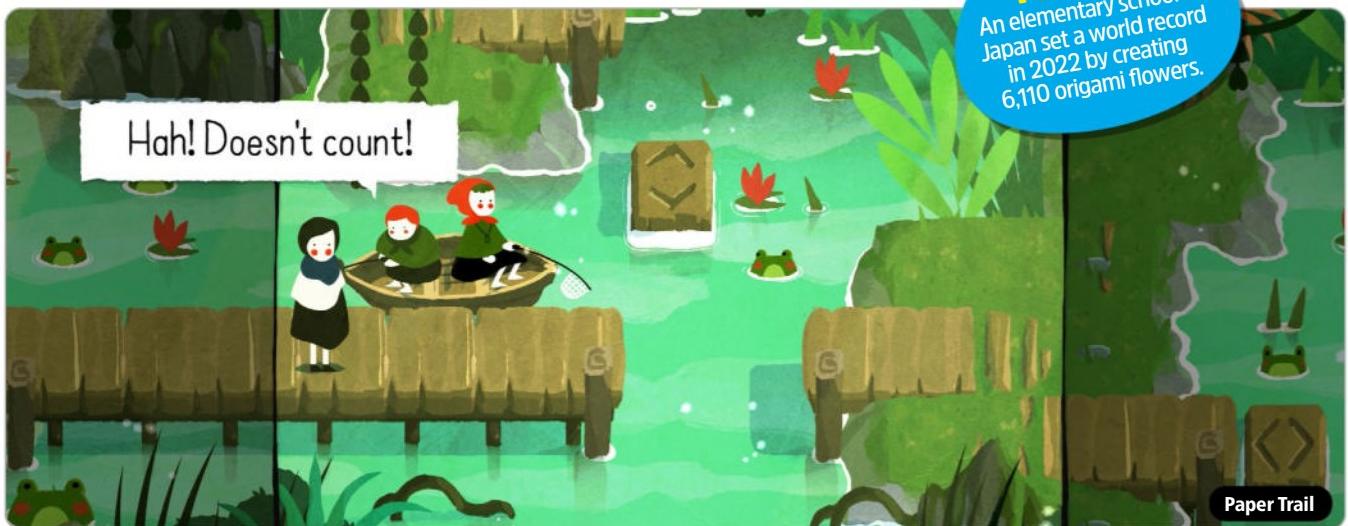


Protecting Paradise: The Story of Niue (Nat Geo) (Disney+) (Hulu)

In 2016, with support from National Geographic, the Pacific island nation of Niue created Moana Mahu, one of the world's largest marine protected areas. This new documentary visits the reserve to explore how it has changed.



On screen



Unfold a puzzle adventure

Paper Trail is a new puzzle adventure game. It is out now for the Nintendo Switch, Xbox systems, PlayStation platforms, the PC, and Netflix games.

In Paper Trail, gamers play as Paige, a star student who desperately wants to continue her education. Her parents don't want her to leave home, so Paige decides to run away so she can go to college. It's Paige's first time away from her village, and she soon learns that the outside world is filled with mysterious forests, curious characters, and all kinds of danger.

Paige's journey includes travels through a swamp, ancient ruins and temples, and even the ocean. The locations are filled with obstacles and dead ends. Luckily, Paige—whose name is a play on words—has a secret power that will help her

navigate her way: She is able to fold and tear the world as if it were a piece of paper. As a result, she can manipulate time, space, and physical objects.

For example, Paige can fold the walls of a house and reveal a door on their backside. She can also reshape footpaths to create new ways around boulders and even bend wide open spaces to bring a faraway building closer to her. If you get stuck trying to figure out how to fold a scene and advance, there are features in the game to help you figure out how to do it.

As she moves through the world, Paige is asked by friendly strangers to help with tasks, and that gives her the chance to explore many additional settings. Along the way, she can collect special origami as rewards and souvenirs from her travels.



PODCAST OF THE WEEK

DISCOVERING DAD

Major podcast platforms

Siblings Jess and Corey think their dad, Dan, is a middle school science teacher. What they don't know is that he used to be a fearless archaeologist. This new eight-episode adventure follows the family as they look for hidden treasure, try to outrun villains, and deal with a family curse.



CLASS OF THE WEEK



APPLE CAMP

apple.com/Todays

Every week from June 19 to July 13, Apple stores in the US are offering free 90-minute classes created for kids ages 6 to 10. In this summer's program, "Exploring New Worlds: Use Your Imagination to Create New Stories Inspired by Kindness," each participant will create an interactive picture book.

VIDEO OF THE WEEK

DO FISH YAWN?

tinyurl.com/TWJUS-FishYawn

Experts believe human yawns cool the brain, but when fish and other animals stretch open their mouths, it may be for a different reason. In this video from the UK's Natural History Museum, a scientist explains what their yawning-like movements are all about.



Book club



SUMMER OF READING FEATURED PICK

The One and Only Family

By Katherine Applegate, illustrated by Patricia Castelao

(Harper)

The beloved gorilla in the series that began with *The One and Only Ivan* is going to be a father. Ivan and his mate, Kinyani, live in a wildlife sanctuary, where keepers care for them. It takes eight and a half months for a baby gorilla to be born—and Ivan feels anxious about the birth. Ivan, who was captured in Africa and caged in a shopping mall, worries that the baby will never see a jungle. He's concerned that because he and Kinyani are the only two gorillas in the sanctuary, Kinyani won't be able to get advice from other gorilla moms like she would if they lived in the wild. Ivan watches his son being born and is overcome with emotion. He faints and wakes up to find a doctor holding a second baby. Ivan and Kinyani have twins. The last half of the book takes place 26 months in the future. Ivan struggles to answer his toddlers' questions about his past and their future, but a tense encounter with a human boy provides some perspective. A satisfying conclusion to the series, this book also includes plots with Bob and Ruby, two of the series' original characters.



DISCUSSION QUESTIONS FOR YOUR BOOK CLUB

While *The One and Only Family* has a hopeful message, it still raises concerns about animals being kept in captivity. Here are questions to get a conversation going with friends and family who have also read the book.

What are the pros and cons of raising baby gorillas in the sanctuary rather than the wild?

Should the sanctuary have allowed visitors to name the twins? Why or why not?

Why do you think Ivan is reluctant to talk about his past with the twins?

How are Ivan and his mate Kinyani different from each other?

In what ways did Bob and Ruby support their friend?

Are you satisfied with the ending of this series? Why or why not?

What was your favorite book in the series?



Ask the Author Ambassador

In 2013, Katherine Applegate won the Newbery Medal for *The One and Only Ivan*.

Now the four-book series is coming to an end with *The One and Only Family*. Applegate met with members of *The Week Junior's* Junior Council and answered their questions below.



What research did you do for the series?

Ivan is based on a gorilla who was in a cage at a shopping mall in Tacoma, Washington, for 27 years. Before I wrote the first book, I visited the mall and went to the town library, where I went through newspaper clippings about Ivan that dated back to the 1960s.

How did it feel to end the series?

I felt happy, sad, and relieved—all at the same time.

Did you enjoy *The One and Only Ivan* movie?

Yes, I thought the CGI animation was brilliant. When I saw Ivan on the screen, it felt like I was looking into his eyes in real life.



How did you begin your writing career?

I became a ghostwriter (an author who writes anonymously) for the book series Sweet Valley Twins. I was so afraid of failing that I didn't want my name on the book. Don't do this in your own careers!

Favorite ice cream flavor?

Coffee, especially in a milkshake.



Best vacation you've ever taken?

I just got back from Spain,



Our list of "The 50 Books Kids Love Most," details about entering our Summer of Reading sweepstakes, and more can be found at kids.theweekjunior.com/summerofreading.



How to...



DID YOU KNOW?

The word "solstice" comes from the Latin words *sol* ("Sun") and *stistium* ("to stand still").

Mark the summer solstice

This astronomical event is a great opportunity to welcome the new season.

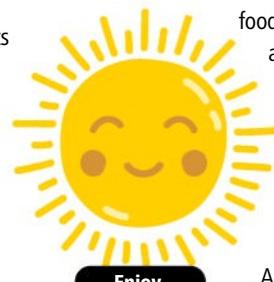
The day with the most hours of sunlight in the northern hemisphere (the half of our planet that lies above the equator) is called the summer solstice, and it marks the official start of summer. This year, it occurs on Thursday, June 20. Many people around the world celebrate the solstice because it ushers in a season of longer days with more natural light to enjoy and to help plants grow. Here's how to get started with your own celebration.

Understand the science

The Earth is constantly rotating as it orbits around the Sun in space. The summer solstice is the time of year when the Earth is tilted most toward the Sun. On this day, the northern hemisphere gets the most hours of daylight all year. (The winter solstice, in December, has the fewest hours of daylight.)

Know the history

It's believed that people started celebrating the summer solstice as far back as the Stone Age. In ancient times, celebrations included bonfires and ritual dances that were thought to grant extra power to the Sun, which would make for a better growing season and ward off evil spirits. Today, though, most celebrations focus on the joy of the summer season.



Borrow a tradition

In Sweden, the summer solstice is celebrated with a national holiday called Midsummer. People gather at parks or country homes, wear crowns made of flowers, and dance around a tall pole called a maypole. The flower crowns, and the holiday itself, symbolize the start of a new season. You could borrow from this tradition and head outside for a picnic with your family to celebrate. Bring along traditional Midsummer foods like salmon, potatoes, and strawberries, as well as supplies to make floral crowns for everyone. Many towns and cities in the US—such as Fairbanks, Alaska; Austin, Texas; and New York City—also host Midsummer or solstice festivals.

Soak up the sunshine

A big part of celebrating the summer solstice is spending more time outside to take advantage of the extra hours of daylight. You and your family could enjoy one of your favorite outdoor activities, whether that's hiking, heading to the beach, bike riding, or gardening. You could also consider some outdoor crafts to celebrate the day, such as decorating your front sidewalk or driveway with chalk suns, rainbows, and flowers.

World celebrations



Here is how three other countries mark the longest day of the year.

Mexico

On the solstice, visitors head to the pyramids of Chichén Itzá (above) on Mexico's Yucatán Peninsula. The Sun casts shadows on the main pyramid, making it appear evenly divided in darkness and light.

Russia

The Ivan Kupala festival takes place shortly after the solstice to mark the end of winter. Plants are burned to ensure a good summer harvest.

United Kingdom

A ring of giant rocks constructed in about 2500 BCE perfectly frames the rising Sun during the summer solstice at Stonehenge, where thousands gather to watch.

How to...



FUN FACT

The earliest written mention of tofu in America was in a letter by Benjamin Franklin in 1770.



WARNING!
Ask an adult's permission before using the stove.

Cook up crispy tofu nuggets

Ingredients

- 16-ounce package extra-firm, pressed tofu
- 1 cup brine (juice) from a jar of dill pickles
- 1/4 cup panko breadcrumbs
- 1/4 cup crushed French fried onions
- 2 tablespoons cornstarch
- 1/2 teaspoon paprika
- Salt and freshly ground pepper
- Vegetable oil, for frying
- Ketchup, mustard, or other dipping sauce

Instructions

1. Tear the tofu into bite-size nuggets and place in a bowl. Pour the pickle juice over the tofu and allow to marinate for 30 to 60 minutes.
2. Meanwhile, combine the breadcrumbs, onions, cornstarch, and paprika in a bowl and mix well. Season to taste with salt and pepper. Drain the tofu and add it to the breadcrumb mixture, tossing to coat well.
3. Coat the bottom of a large, nonstick skillet with vegetable oil and set pan over medium-
- high heat. When the oil is hot, use a long kitchen utensil such as metal tongs to carefully add the tofu nuggets in a single layer in the pan. Cook until they start to brown on the bottom, about 5 minutes.
4. Continue to cook, using the tongs to occasionally turn the nuggets, until they are golden and crisp on all sides. Remove to a plate lined with paper towels to drain, then serve with your favorite sauce for dipping. Serves 3.



LIFE HACK

GET ALONG BETTER WITH SIBLINGS

Even the closest siblings can get on each other's nerves at times. Disagreements are natural, but they can lead to harsh words and hurt feelings. If you want a more peaceful home life, make an effort to get along better with siblings. The next time you start squabbling, pause and take a breath. Consider your words before you speak. Try not to place blame solely on your sibling, and don't be afraid to take responsibility for your part in a fight. Try doing at least one kind act toward them each day. For example, offer to play a game together, ask how their day went, or tell them you're proud of something they did. Your actions may inspire them to treat you with more kindness too.





Puzzles



Word search

Can you find all these words associated with travel? They are hidden horizontally, vertically, or diagonally and can be forward or backward. When you're done, read the remaining letters to get a bonus message.

AIRPORT	PICTURESQUE
ATTRactions	PLANE
BAGS	RUINS
BOOKING	SIGHTSEEING
CITY	SIGNS
CURRENCY	SOUVENIRS
GUEST	TAXI
HOLIDAY	TOURISM
HOTEL	TRAIN
ITINERARY	TRIP
MAP	UNPACK
PASSPORT	VIEW
PHOTOS	YOU ARE HERE



FILL IN THE BLANKS

Fill in the blanks in each sentence with words that are the same except for a single letter changed, like DECODE and DECIDE. (NEED A HINT? Check the bottom of the page.)

- Last summer my camp counselor said we weren't keeping our cabin _____ enough, so when we return _____ summer we will try harder.
- While my father _____ the old grandfather clock, he explained that if it still worked the bells inside _____ chime every hour.
- The post office _____ it was their fault that the picture frame arrived badly _____ in one spot because they said it hadn't been packed carefully.

ANSWERS
CAN BE
FOUND ON
PAGE 29.

Spot the difference

These two pictures of a Cape Cod lighthouse appear to be the same, but take a closer look. There are actually five differences. Can you see them?



FOUR IN A ROW

Place four of the letters below to complete the first pair of words, in the same order in both words. Use the remaining four letters to complete the second pair of words, in the same order in both words.

B E G L R T U Y

RAV

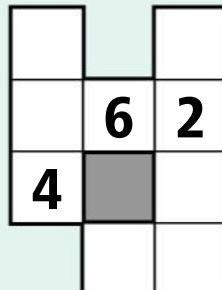
UTT RF

YO

ITA IS

Out of order

The numbers 1 to 9 can fit, one per square, so that no two consecutive numbers are in squares that touch in any way, even at a corner. Use the numbers already given to figure out where the rest of the numbers go.



That's unbelievable!



Veggies can be sweet.

Eat your vegetables for dessert

This frozen treat served in Massachusetts may not be for everyone. "Hadley Grass" ice cream, named for a town known as the "asparagus capital of the world," features the taste of asparagus. A local ice cream shop has been making the flavor each spring for about 20 years. They use cooked asparagus spears, almonds, and a flavoring blend that is intended to complement the vegetable's taste. One reviewer described the light green dessert as having a "mellow, nutty, savory-sweet flavor" with "brighter notes" from the asparagus.



Talk about finger food!

A tastefully teeny-tiny artwork

An artist in the UK has created the world's smallest fish-finger sandwich. To mark the launch of its new Mini Fish Fingers, the Birds Eye food company asked the public what ingredients go best with fish fingers to make the perfect sandwich. The answers: two slices of white bread, butter, ketchup, and lettuce. Each of these became a part of the mini meal, which artist Nadia Michaux spent more than 100 hours making out of clay. The finished piece is less than half an inch tall and weighs about the same as a pea. "This was an incredibly difficult challenge," Michaux said.



The art really turns heads.

Barber makes hair masterpieces

Since 2008, barber Cesar Guzman of California has been creating a buzz with his artistic haircuts. Guzman has a passion for art, and he told KERO-TV that heads have become "my piece of paper...that I can draw on." His designs have featured characters such as Pokémon and Sonic the Hedgehog, movie scenes, and celebrities. Most recently, Guzman created an image of the woman from Leonardo da Vinci's famous *Mona Lisa* painting. Next, he's setting his sights on doing a portrait of singer Miley Cyrus.



Dogs conduct an orchestra

A pet food company put together an orchestra conducted by dogs. The canine conductors sat on a special podium and led the musicians with their wagging tails. The dogs were offered treats, which made their tails wag faster, and less tasty options, like broccoli, which slowed them down. "When the tail went down, we had to play softer or quieter," said a violinist named Kamila. Afterward, the symphonies were released on the streaming platform Spotify. Is this story real, or is it a tall tail?*

*Pet food company Pedigree will give money to a foundation that helps dogs find loving homes.

gets. Pedigree will give money to a foundation that helps dogs find loving homes. brought in dogs of all shapes and sizes to conduct. For every stream the music



Your turn

Editor's note

I was fortunate to be on the video call when Katherine Applegate, this week's Summer of Reading Author Ambassador, spoke to our Junior Council about her new book, *The One and Only Family* (p23). I have read all the books in this series, starting with *The One and Only Ivan*, so I was very excited to meet her. She spoke on a wide range of topics, and one in particular has stuck with me. She said her idea for the book about Ivan came from a newspaper article she happened to read about a real gorilla that lived in a shopping mall. If she hadn't read that story on that particular day, a book series beloved by millions of children might never have been written. The lesson I took away is that you never know where your next brilliant idea will come from—if only you are open to it and let your mind wander! Find out more about our Summer of Reading program, including a chance to win prizes, in the red box below.



Andrea Barbalich
Editor-in-Chief

CHARITY OF THE WEEK



Shakespeare Theatre Company

This organization celebrates the work of English playwright William Shakespeare (1564–1616). It stages productions inspired by his plays as well as those written by other writers. The group hosts summer acting camps for young people, and it works with schools to conduct drama workshops.

Find out more at
shakespearetheatre.org.



Raising money for newborns

“For about a year, we have had a business called Kangaroo Kare to raise money for the Neonatal Intensive Care Unit (NICU) at a local children’s hospital where infants receive vital care. We make and sell resin necklaces, keychains, and bookmarks. We first got this idea from a little resin kit we bought to make jewelry. We were in the NICU as babies. When we decided to start a business, we did it to give back to our community. We have also started raising money through local craft fairs. All our earnings go straight to the NICU. We are excited to continue our work!”

Have you done something interesting or raised money for a cause you care about? Whatever you're up to, we want to hear about it at hello@theweekjunior.com.



Sarina, 12, and Shaili, 12,
North Carolina

JOKE OF THE WEEK
Why did the bowl of potato soup drip all over the table?
It was full of leeks.

SUMMER OF READING

Enter to win books!

This is the second issue of our Summer Reading campaign! We hope you enjoy our interview with Author Ambassador Katherine Applegate and a review of her new book *The One and Only Family* (p23). Our reading challenge continues! Once you've finished any three books, go to tinyurl.co/TWJUS-ReadingChallenge with an adult to enter our sweepstakes. Four winners will win books, and one will win books and a video call with an Author Ambassador. For our list of “The 50 Books Kids Love Most,” go to kids.theweekjunior.com/summerofreading.



THE WEEK
Junior

IT'S YOUR TURN

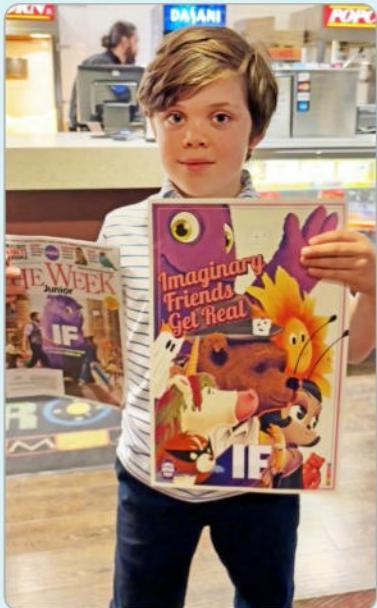
Email your news, views, and photos to hello@theweekjunior.com.

Your turn



YOUR PHOTOS

We'd love to see pictures you've taken or pictures with you in them! Have an adult email them to us at hello@theweekjunior.com, along with anything you would like us to know about what's happening in the photo.



"I watched the movie *IF* the day it came out, and it was amazing!" Charlie, 8, Virginia

"After reading the How To article on being a friend to wild birds, I painted a birdhouse and cleaned out our bird feeder. Thank you for inspiring me!"
Melia, 12, Idaho



"I made the snickerdoodle blondies and ate them with my family. Pro tip: Add a scoop of ice cream!" Jackson, 11, New York

Teacher OF THE WEEK



Teacher's Name: **Ms. Skolnick**
School: **Randolph Elementary School**

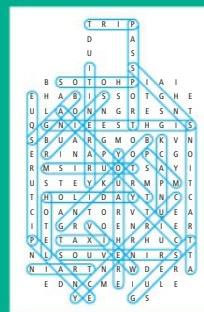
"Ms. Skolnick is a great teacher because she does a lot of fun projects with us, like making animal guide books. She's also really positive and encourages us to do our best. If we make a mistake, she shows us how to do it right and learn from it. I always feel safe and comfortable in Ms. Skolnick's classroom.
She is the best teacher ever!"

Harper, 9, Vermont

Nominate your teacher for Teacher of the Week!
Send your reason for the nomination, a photo of your teacher, and your school's name and address to hello@theweekjunior.com.

GETTY IMAGES ON LEFT PAGE: GETTY IMAGES

Puzzle answers (from page 26)



Word search

Unused letters: Dubai has the longest bag moving system at over one hundred miles.

3	8
1	6
4	9
7	5

Four in a row
bravely, butterfly
yogurt, guitarist

Fill in the blanks
1. neat, next
2. wound, would
3. denied, dented



Quiz answers (from page 30)

- 1 Chicago Wheel
- 2 True
- 3 a) French Open
- 4 Gorilla
- 5 True
- 6 c) Bristol
- 7 a) Arizona
- 8 False. Her name is Paige.
- 9 b) Fungi
- 10 Kaiju
- 11 False. It was used for fighting.
- 12 Massachusetts
- 13 c) Pakistan
- 14 True
- 15 a) Asparagus

We want to hear from you! To have your letters, photos, nominations, recommendations, or ideas considered for inclusion in the magazine, please include your full name, age, and state with your submission. By emailing your submission to us, you give *The Week Junior* consent to publish it in the magazine and online. Please get your parent/guardian's permission before sending anything to us.



Quiz

How much of this week's news can you remember?

1 What was the original name of the Ferris wheel at the 1893 World's Fair?

2 True or false? Edward Dwight recently became the oldest person to travel into space.

True False

3 Iga Swiatek has won four out of the last five titles in what major tennis tournament?

a) French Open b) US Open c) Wimbledon
 a b c

4 In Katherine Applegate's new novel *The One and Only Ivan*, what kind of animal is Ivan?

5 True or false? The rainbow Pride flag was created in 1978.

True False

6 In what English city did the work of the street artist named Banksy first appear?

a) Birmingham b) Brighton c) Bristol
 a b c

7 NASA astronauts recently simulated moonwalks in a desert in which US state?

a) Arizona b) Nevada c) New Mexico
 a b c

8 True or false? In the new video game Paper Trail, the main character's name is Penny.

True False



ANSWERS
CAN BE
FOUND ON
PAGE 29.

9 To defend against wasps, female Megymenum stink bugs grow which of the following on the back of their legs?

a) Bacteria b) Fungi c) Plants
 a b c

10 In the movie *Ultraman: Rising*, Ultraman battles giant monsters called what?

11 True or false? The 3,500-year-old Dendra armor was used only for ceremonial purposes.

True False

12 People in which US state were recently surprised to see a flamingo on the beach?

13 Team USA pulled off a shocking win over which country in the T20 Cricket World Cup?

a) England b) India c) Pakistan
 a b c

14 True or false? Bison are helping a grassland in Romania absorb carbon dioxide from the atmosphere.

True False

15 A shop in Massachusetts is serving ice cream flavored with which vegetable?

a) Asparagus
 b) Broccoli
 c) Spinach
 a b c

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The Week Junior (ISSN 2689-9027) is published weekly, except January 5, January 12, July 12, and September 13. *The Week Junior* is published by Future US LLC, 130 West 42nd Street, 7th Floor, New York, NY 10036.

Periodicals postage paid at New York, NY, and at additional mailing offices.

POSTMASTERS: Send change of address to *The Week Junior*, PO Box 37595, Boone, IA 50037-7595.



Future plc is a public company quoted on the London Stock Exchange (symbol FUTR)
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ANCIENT FOWL

Roosters—descendants of the red junglefowl that lived in Southeast Asia thousands of years ago—were brought to the US in the 1500s.